

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 SP-02 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAM-01 /076 W

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R 231412Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0453

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEHJASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06129

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, PO, BGEN

SUBJECT: UK PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL

REF: STATE 83921, LONDON 5745

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1. ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOUTHWEST EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT OF FCO (BAKER) TOLD EMBOFF APRIL 21 THAT HMG HAD OFFERED VISIT OF BRITISH OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS UK ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL FOR LATER PART OF MAY FOLLOWING ELECTIONS. BAKER SAID PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT HAD RESISTED AN EARLIER VISIT WITH EXPLANATION THAT ECONOMIC AID MINISTRY WAS BEING MOVED AND THAT EARLIER VISIT WOULD BE INCONVENIENT.

2. AT THIS STAGE BALL IS IN PORTUGUESE COURT. BRITISH BELIEVE PORTUGAL MAY AGAIN SEEK POSTPONEMENT OF VISIT BECAUSE OF LACK OF INTERNAL AGREEMENT WITHIN AFM ON FOREIGN AID GENERALLY.

3. BAKER SAID FCO CONSIDERS PRESENT MINISTER ON FOREIGN AID LEFTIST IN VIEW BUT PERHAPS NOT COMMUNIST. BRITISH SUSPECT THAT SOME POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS MAY EXPLAIN THEIR INABILITY TO GET CLEAR GUIDELINES FROM PORTUGUESE ON DESIGN OF AID PACKAGE. NUMEROUS PITCHES HAVE BEEN MADE TO BRITISH BY PORTUGUESE POLITICIANS FOR BRITISH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL AS "DEMONSTRATION" OF BRITISH CONCERN WITH POLITICAL TRENDS IN PORTUGAL. MOST OF THESE PITCHES HAVE COME FROM PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY AND CDS WHOSE EFFORTS MAY HAVE CREATED SOMETHING OF A PROBLEM FOR AID MINISTER AND AFM.

4. COMMENT: FCO SEEMS CONVINCED THAT AID TALKS WILL BE DELAYED ONCE MORE BY PORTUGAL, AND BAKER WISHED TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO EMBOFF THAT EXPLANATION FOR DELAY RESTED ON PORTUGAL RATHER THAN HMG.

RICHARDSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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